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LS

5 March 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Training

SUBJECT : Weekly Activities Report

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1. At our all-hands meeting on 3 March, [REDACTED] reported on the independent rating system for oral/aural proficiency testing which has been developed by the Testing Branch with the help of the Psychological Services Staff. On 8 March we will begin the use of the new system on a trial basis. The new approach to proficiency rating - developed to meet an increasing need for objective, reliable testing - is based on the principle that an average of independent ratings produces more reliable test scores than a rating agreed upon after discussion among the evaluators. This system will also provide more detailed information on the accuracy and consistency among the examiners, to aid us in developing training courses for them.

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2. Also at the all-hands meeting, [REDACTED] described for the faculty the mission and activities of the Language Development Committee. This was the first time that LS personnel had been given a briefing on the new Language Development Program and the role of LS in implementing it. Dr. [REDACTED]'s talk underscored the emphasis which we must put on improved proficiency testing, now that incentive awards and many overseas assignments will be based on language proficiency ratings.

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5. After reading the OTR catalog and deciding that the Language School could not provide them with the "accelerated" Russian reading course they needed, two prospective Russian students from OSR applied for external training. ISS/AIR checked with us before acting on the applications and found that we in fact could run a course to fit the requirement. The course, which will start on 15 March, will entail a total of 9 hours of instruction time a week.

6. Language School Statistics: We have modified our statistical reporting slightly. Effective this week we will report the Language School's enrollment statistics as they were on Friday of the previous week. Following then are the statistics as of the week 22 - 26 February 1971:

Students

Full-time - 106
Part-time - 183 (55 BAHLT)
(74 HQS.)

Classes

Full-time - 36
Part-time - 59 (8 BAHLT)
(13 HQS.)

Laboratory hours for the week of 22 - 26 February 1971:

Language School - 200
Headquarters - 58

There were 22 proficiency tests given during the week of 22 - 26 February 1971.

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Acting Chief, Language School

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